

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0006] on Page 2 with the following paragraph:

--This task is solved by a toothed rack steering ear with an adjusting nut and with a housing, which housing has an opening with internal threads, which opening is adapted to the adjusting nut and receives the adjusting nut in the installed condition of the toothed rack steering gear. At least ~~one~~one recess is provided in the housing, which recess is in direct proximity of the opening. The recess can be an internal recess and/or an external recess. A retainer is provided, which retainer has a ring shaped body and further exhibits at least one finger, which finger a) protrudes from the ring shaped, b) is adapted to the recess and c) can engage into the recess. In case of more than one recesses the number of fingers is preferably equal to the number of recesses. The retainer has a back surface; the adjusting nut exhibits a front surface, in the assembled state the front surface of the adjusting nut is in contact with the back surface of the retainer. A connecting device is provided, which secures the connection between the back surface and the front surface in the assembled state.--

Please replace Paragraph [0011] on Page 4 with the following paragraph:

-- Furthermore the invention refers to a procedure for manufacturing a toothed rack steering gear, which exhibits the features according to the device claims, in particular the features of the device already discussed above, and further comprises the following process steps:

- screwing the adjusting nut ~~in~~ into the opening and into a preliminary position, which does not correspond yet to the final position,
- pushing the retainer onto the adjusting nut by pressing the fingers into the associated recesses, whereby the connecting devices come into direct proximity, however, still no connection are made,

- adjusting the adjusting nut into an adjusting position optimal for the toothed rack steering gear, and
- triggering the connecting devices, so that a mechanically fixed connection between retainer and adjusting nut is reached.—

Please replace Paragraph [0015] on Page 5 with the following paragraph:

-- The invention is suited in particular for power steering systems, in which the servo power is provided electrically, i.e., Electric Power Assisted Steering ("EPAS") systems ~~so mentioned~~. With these the requested manufacturing tolerances are rather small (for example regarding the parallelism of the teeth of the toothed rack). The invention makes it possible that the position of the adjusting nut is not modified or changed when fixing its rotating position, i.e. if it is connected with the retainer. This leads to improved characteristics of the steering gear in connection with small production costs.--

Please replace Paragraph [0020] on Page 6 with the following paragraph:

-- In FIG. 1 a portion of a housing 20 of a toothed rack steering gear is represented, as far as it is necessary for the explanation of the present invention. For ~~for~~ the setting up and for the construction of the complete steering gear it is referred to the two references mentioned in the introductory part of the specification which references are incorporated by reference and form an integral part of the present specification.--

Please replace Paragraph [0027] on Page 8 with the following paragraph:

-- As FIG. 2 shows, the fingers have ribs 44 and/or retaining projections on their inner surfaces and the inner surfaces are facing each other. These ribs 44 and/or retaining projections are more or less conforming to the courses of the internal thread 24. They are also on the same cylinder as the courses of the internal thread. Thus a mechanical hold of the retainer 38 is possible at the adjusting nut 30 and in particular as the adjusting nut 30 is screwed ~~in~~ into the opening 22. During installation of the retainer 38, with the adjusting nut

30 already being screwed in, the fingers 42 slip over the threads of the external thread 32 and a fixation of the retainer 38 is achieved.--

Please replace Paragraph [0033] on Page 10 with the following paragraph:

-- In the following the method of the production of the steering gear is described:
It is assumed that the production takes place on an assembly belt and/or an assembly-line.
In a first step an adjusting nut 30 is screwed in into the opening 22 of the housing. Its rotating position does not correspond yet to the later final position. Then a retainer 38 is pushed onto the adjusting nut. It is fixed due to the reciprocal effect of its fingers 42 with the external thread 32, and has, thus, a sufficiently safe provisional hold.--